

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

The drawings have been objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a), as the Examiner apparently believes that the sensing element recited in claim 1 is not shown. However, Applicant traverses this objection, as the sensing element is clearly shown in FIGs. 2 and 5 and is identified by the reference numeral 15. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

The specification has been objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter, as the Examiner alleges that the sensing element 15 is not disclosed. However, as discussed above, the sensing element 15 of claim 1 is clearly shown in FIGs. 2 and 5, and is discussed in the specification in several places, including at page 7, line 7. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's objection to the specification be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Tilli and Peck. The Examiner's rejection is no longer applicable for the following reasons.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 3 (now canceled), which the Examiner has indicated as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶2 and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. After thoroughly reviewing the Examiner's Office Action, Applicant has found no such rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶2 and asserts that claim 1 meets the definiteness requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶2. Therefore, Applicant asserts that amended independent claim 1, which incorporates the limitations of allowable claim 3, now canceled, is in allowable form.

Claim 5 depends from claim 4, which in turn depends from amended and allowable claim 1. Thus, claim 5 is also allowable.

Claim 8 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious in view of the three-way combination of Tilli, Peck and Klappenbach.

Claim 8 depends from amended claim 1, which is allowable for the reasons discussed above. Therefore, Applicant asserts that claim 8 is also now allowable.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 2, 4, 6 and 7 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶2 and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 3 and claim 7 have been cancelled without prejudice. As discussed above, after thoroughly reviewing the Examiner's Office Action, Applicant has found no rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶2 and asserts that claims 2, 4 and 6 meet the definiteness requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶2.

In addition, claim 2 has been amended into independent form to incorporate all limitations of allowable claim 1, while claims 4 and 6 remain dependent on allowable claim 1. Therefore, Applicant asserts that claims 2, 4 and 6 are in allowable form.

The Examiner should note that new claims 9 – 23. New claims 9 – 16 depend from and recite further details of the motor in amended claim 1, and are therefore allowable over the art of record for essentially the same reasons discussed above in connection with claim 1. New claim 17 depends from and recites further details of the motor in amended claim 2, and is therefore allowable over the art of record for essentially the same reasons discussed above in connection with claim 2.

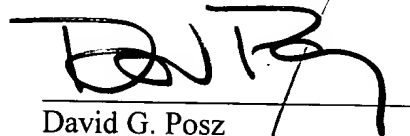
New independent claims 18 and 19, and new claims 20 and 21, which depend from claim 19, recite the motor of the present invention as well as further structural details regarding the

rotational sensor. New independent claims 22 and 23 generally correspond to allowable claims 1 and 2 but do not recite the rotational sensor details as recited in claims 1 and 2. Support for these claims can be found throughout the specification and drawings. As these claims distinguish the present invention over the art of record, allowance of these new claims is respectfully requested.

All rejections having been addressed, Applicant asserts that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests an early indication of same from the Examiner.

Please charge any fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,



David G. Posz
Reg. No. 37,701

Law Offices of David G. Posz
2000 L Street, N.W.
Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 416-1638
Customer No. 23400

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 2 and 6 as follows.

1. (Amended) A motor comprising:

a motor case;

a rotatable shaft that is rotatably supported by said motor case and is rotated upon actuation of said motor;

a worm shaft that is substantially coaxial with said rotatable shaft and is rotatably supported by said motor case;

a coupling member including a driving-side rotator and a driven-side rotator that is drivingly engageable with said driving-side rotator, said driving-side rotator being connected to said rotatable shaft to rotate integrally therewith, said driven-side rotator being connected to said worm shaft to rotate integrally therewith; and

a rotational sensor that includes a sensor magnet and a sensing element, said sensor magnet rotating integrally with said rotatable shaft, said sensing element measuring a rotational speed of said sensor magnet, wherein:

said sensor magnet is secured to said driving-side rotator to rotate integrally therewith; [and]

said sensing element is secured to said motor case in such a manner that said sensing element opposes said sensor magnet; and

said coupling member transmits rotation of said rotatable shaft to said worm shaft and prevents transmission of rotation of said worm shaft to said rotatable shaft.

2. (Amended) A motor [according to claim 1, wherein] comprising:

a motor case;

a rotatable shaft that is rotatably supported by said motor case and is rotated upon actuation of said motor;

a worm shaft that is substantially coaxial with said rotatable shaft and is rotatably supported by said motor case;

a coupling member including a driving-side rotator and a driven-side rotator that is drivingly engageable with said driving-side rotator, said driving-side rotator being connected to said rotatable shaft to rotate integrally therewith, said driven-side rotator being connected to said worm shaft to rotate integrally therewith; and

a rotational sensor that includes a sensor magnet and a sensing element, said sensor magnet rotating integrally with said rotatable shaft, said sensing element measuring a rotational speed of said sensor magnet, wherein:

said sensor magnet is secured to said driving-side rotator to rotate integrally therewith;

said sensing element is secured to said motor case in such a manner that said sensing element opposes said sensor magnet; and

said coupling member permits misalignment between a rotational axis of said rotatable shaft and a rotational axis of said worm shaft.

6. (Amended) A motor according to claim 1, wherein:

said motor case includes a cup-shaped yoke and a housing, said cup-shaped yoke having an open end and receiving said rotatable shaft, said housing of said motor case receiving said worm shaft and being secured to said open end of said yoke;

said open end of said yoke has a brush holder secured therein; and [, said brush holder being made of a resin material and holding a power supplying brush on a first axial side of said brush holder which faces an interior of said yoke; and

said sensing element is secured to a second axial side of said brush holder that is opposite to said first axial side of said brush holder]

said sensing element is secured on a circuit board that is, in turn, secured to said brush holder.